IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A video signal enhancement unit ~~(100) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in~~ comprising:

a pixel counter for generating a count of pixels representative of the number of pixels that have video signal levels higher than a predetermined video level;

a processing unit for modifying contrast of the video signal in dependence on the count of pixels;

~~—~~a contrast counter ~~(112) designed to provide~~for providing control input for the processing unit ~~(102) and for~~, said contrast counter storing a contrast count that is decreased each time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined threshold; and ~~connected to the contrast counter (112)~~

~~—~~a trigger means ~~(114) designed to generate~~, coupled to the contrast counter, for generating a pulse~~,~~ resulting in an increase of the contrast count.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the trigger

means ~~(114) is arranged to generate~~generates the pulse every video field.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said video signal enhancement unit further ~~comprising~~ comprises a second pixel counter, substantially similar to said pixel counter, for generating a second count of pixels representative of a second number of pixels that ~~occur within a second predetermined period of time and which~~ have video signal levels ~~that are~~ higher than a second predetermined video level, ~~and characterized in that~~ the trigger means ~~(114) is arranged to generate~~generating the pulse if ~~on a predetermined moment of time,~~ the second count of pixels is less than a second predefined threshold.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in ~~comprising, coupled to the contrast counter (112),~~that said video signal enhancement unit further comprises a contrast comparator ~~(116) able to limit~~coupled to the contrast counter, said contrast comparator limiting the contrast count to a maximum contrast value.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the maximum contrast value is controllable.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the contrast comparator ~~(116) is able to control~~ controls the trigger means ~~(114)~~ to stop generating pulses when the contrast count has reached the maximum contrast value.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An image display apparatus ~~(200) as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the video signal enhancement unit (100) comprises~~ comprising:

receiving means for receiving a video signal;

a display device for displaying images represented by the video signal; and

a video signal enhancement unit comprising:

a pixel counter for generating a count of pixels representative of the number of pixels that have video signal levels higher than a predetermined video level;

a processing unit for modifying contrast of the video signal in dependence on the pixel count;

~~a trigger means (114) and~~ a contrast counter ~~(112) designed to provide~~for providing a control input for the processing unit ~~(102)~~ and for storing a contrast count that is decreased each time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined threshold~~,~~; and

a trigger means, coupled to the contrast counter, for generating ~~that is increased each time the trigger means (114) generates~~ a pulse resulting in an increase of the contrast count.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image display apparatus ~~(200)~~ as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the trigger means ~~(114) is arranged to generate~~generates a pulse every video field.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image display apparatus ~~(200)~~ as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~further comprises~~,~~ a contrast comparator coupled to the contrast counter ~~(112)~~, ~~a~~ said contrast comparator ~~(116) able to limit~~limiting the contrast count to a maximum contrast value.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of video signal enhancement comprising the steps:

~~a first step to generate~~generating a count of pixels representative of the number of pixels in the video signal that

~~occur within a predetermined period of time and which~~ have video signal levels ~~that are~~ higher than a predetermined video level; ~~and~~

~~a second step to modify~~modifying contrast of the video signal in dependence on ~~the count of pixels~~a contrast count~~, characterized in that the predetermined period of time, during which the count of pixels is determined, is a number of times shorter than one video field interval~~;

storing the contrast count, and decreasing the stored contrast count each time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined threshold; and

increasing the contrast count in response to a trigger pulse.